# Prince Home Is a National Model On How To Effectively Assist Homeless Veterans

The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Prince Home at Manteno is a program for homeless and disabled Veterans located at the State Veterans' Home in Manteno, Illinois.

The Prince Home at Manteno helps provide housing and supportive services for 15 disabled, homeless Illinois Veterans at a time. It serves as a national model for how to overcome challenges in financing housing for disabled Veterans, including Veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).



#### **Mission Statement**

The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs and the Prince Home is committed to reducing homelessness among our veteran population. In addition to providing permanent housing, food and security, we assist with employment; provide counseling services; and provide access to healthcare and transportation for the Veterans. It is our goal to help our Veterans successfully transition into independence and personal growth.

#### **American Legion Gives Gift Cards For Christmas**

On December 21, 2017 members of the Peotone American Legion visited Prince Home and gave a great donation! Each resident received a \$100 Visa gift card for Christmas! The Peotone American Legion has been a great supporter of Prince Home since we opened. The Legion makes a lot of donations throughout the year and the residents attend events at the Legion Hall on a regular basis.

The residents and staff at Prince Home are pictures here with members of the Peotone American Legion during their visit on December 21, 2017.



### **VFW Post #311continues their generosity**



The VFW Post #311 visited Prince Home on. They donated water, toiletries, coffee, and snacks for the veterans. Post #311 continues to be a great supporter of Prince Home. The veterans appreciate all of their dedication and support.

## **Grilling For Freedom Visits To Spread some Holiday Cheer**

On December 22, 2017 the members of Grilling For Freedom stopped by to drop off holiday gift bags to the residents of Prince Home. Grilling for Freedom regularly invites the residents of Prince Home to activities. The residents have enjoyed picnics and fishing trips sponsored by the group.



# Peotone Adopt a Soldier Makes the Residents of Prince Home jolly For the Holidays

Sue Wackerlin and the Peotone Adopt-A-Soldier members came to Prince Home on December 17, 2017 and made Christmas for the veterans at Prince a happy one. The residents were able to give a list of the things they wanted for Christmas. To Adopt-A-Soldier. Adopt-A-Soldier got the veterans EVERYTHING they asked for and then some! The things ranged from Cubs Memorabilia to laptop computers! Adopt-A-Soldier also gave each resident a \$100 gift card! And if that wasn't enough they donated a brand new Gas BBQ Grill to the program! In all it totaled over \$3,000 in gifts for the veterans! Adopt-A-Soldier has been one of the major supporters of Prince Home over the years and the residents and staff are appreciative of everything they do!







#### VFW Auxiliary Takes Prince to Breakfast



On December 11, 2017 Maggie Davis and the VFW Auxiliary treated the residents of Prince Home to a great Breakfast at Mayberry Junction in Manteno, Illinois. The Auxiliary and the residents enjoyed a morning full of food, fun, and fellowship! A wonderful time was had by all!

#### **Southland Voice Spreads Christmas Cheer**

On December 26, 2017 members of the Southland Voice stopped by to donate holiday gift bags to the residents of Prince Home. The residents were appreciative of the gifts that were brought.



### **Senator Trotter and Representative Sims visit Prince Home**

On October 30, 2017 State Senator Donne Trotter (D-17th) and State Representative Elgie Sims, Jr. (D-34th) stopped by Prince Home along with Kankakee Seventh Ward Alderman Fred Tetter to tour the facility and talk about the services that are provided to the veterans. They both discussed resources that are available to the veterans and promised their continued support of the Prince Home. It was a great visit and they promised to visit Prince on a regular basis. Prince Home is always excited and honored when any of our legislators take time out of their busy schedules to visit and show their support for the veterans.



(L-R) Lester Robertson (Program Director), Representative Sims, Rosemary Irons-Lewis (Rehab Counselor), Wali Lewis (Program Supervisor), Alderman Tetter, and Senator Trotter

#### **VFW Auxiliary Gives a BBQ**



On August 27, 2017 The members of the of VFW Auxiliary Post #191came to Prince and cooked out for the veterans! They brought all the meat and sides! The residents enjoyed the food and fellowship that the VFW provided. The residents had a great time!

#### **Thank You**

## Thanks the following who generously donated to Prince Home during the holidays:

- VFW Post 2131 Clifton, IL (15)-\$25 gift cards (GC)
- American Legion Aux, Ashkum, IL (15)-\$20 GC
- Rich Vanpelt, Manteno Amvets local 107, IL (15)- \$20 GC
- American Legion Aux, Post 191, (15), \$25 GC
- Overpass for America, (15) Burger King & Bakers Square GC
- Prairie State College Veterans Club, (15)-\$19 GC
- Adopt-A-Soldier, (15)- \$100 GC
- The American Legion Riders Post 697, (15)-\$100
- Kristine Miller, River North, cookies
- Manteno Food Pantry, (15)- \$20 GC
- VFW Post 311, 6 complete Holiday Dinners
- Jack Boastalic, (15)-\$20 GC
- Christian Church of Manteno, Dinner

#### Thank you!

Prince Home's residents and staff would like to thank all of the countless community organizations that continue to show their support of Prince through their food, clothing, and monetary donations. It is greatly appreciated!

The Prince Home at Manteno is a program for homeless and disabled veterans co-located with the Veterans' Home in Manteno, Illinois. The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Prince Home at Manteno is a residential program for homeless and disabled Veterans. The facility is wheelchair assessable, and provides residential housing for eligible male and female Veterans. Our Staff is proficient in addressing a multitude of challenges including but not limited to, homelessness, PTSD, sobriety, self-esteem, and hopelessness.

The Prince Home is located in rural Manteno, Illinois, just 40 miles south of Chicago. It shares grounds with the Illinois Veterans' Home at Manteno.



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